

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Office Action in the present application. The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11, 13-22, 24, 28-41 and 51 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Wingate. Claims 12, 23 and 42 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wingate. Claims 25-27 and 43-50 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wingate in view of the Applicant's admitted prior art.

Applicant expresses his appreciation to Examiner Donald M. Lair and SPE Nancy Le for the courtesy of an interview which was granted to Applicants' representative, Sanford T. Colb (Reg. No. 26,856). The interview was held in the USPTO on January 6, 2004.

In the interview, claims 1-51 were discussed vis-à-vis the prior art reference Wingate (U.S. 4,480,312). The Interview Summary Record states, in relevant part, "The differences between Wingate (U.S. 4,480,312) and the present invention were discussed, primarily the fact that the variable frequency signal generated by Wingate is input to a microprocessor input, while the variable frequency signal of the present invention is input to the clock signal input of the microprocessor. It was agreed that an amendment containing clarification of this arrangement would be entered and considered by the Examiner."

In view of the foregoing, it is deemed that the present Amendment is completely proper pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116, and its entry and favorable consideration are respectfully requested.

Applicant has thus amended claim 1 to recite "a microprocessor having a clock input" and "to supply said pulse signal to said clock input of said microprocessor".

Applicant has also amended claim 13 to recite “a microprocessor having a clock input” and “to generate a clock signal for input to said clock input of said microprocessor”.

Claim 33 has been amended to recite “a microprocessor operative to receive a signal having a varying amplitude from a sensor, said signal being provided as an input to a clock input of said microprocessor.”

Applicant has amended claim 34 to recite “a microprocessor having a clock input” and “generating a clock signal for input to said clock input of said microprocessor”.

Claim 51 has been amended to recite “to generate a clock signal for input to a clock input of said microprocessor”.

Support for the amendments to the claims can be found in Fig. 7A and in the specification on page 26, lines 1-4.

As discussed in the interview, Wingate discloses an electronic temperature sensor/controller system generating a variable frequency signal and providing the variable frequency signal as input to a microprocessor input. Wingate does not show or suggest providing the variable frequency signal as input to a clock input of the microprocessor, as recited in amended independent claims 1, 13, 33, 34 and 51.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 13, 33, 34 and 51 are deemed to be allowable. All of the remaining claims each depend directly or ultimately from one of these independent claims and recite additional patentable matter, and are therefore deemed allowable. Thus, all of the claims are deemed to be allowable.

Applicant reserves the right to pursue the claims as filed in the context of a continuation application.

Applicant has carefully studied the remaining prior art of record herein and concludes that the invention as described and claimed in the present application is neither shown in nor suggested by the cited art.

In view of the foregoing remarks, all of the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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